

# Vision Commission Report on Topic 8. Education

June 2014

The Vision Commission began in January 2009 with the charge to track, measure and report on progress of vision implementation to the community. Beginning November of 2013, the Commission will deliver reports on one of the thirteen Vision Topics using at least three ways to track and measure progress on the Vision:

1. Report the scope of **Implementation Efforts** taken to address strategies and objectives in the Vision document.
2. Recognize **Significant Events** that could have an impact on one or more of the 13 Visions.
3. Develop a set of **Progress Indicators** that will help the community see whether the 13 Visions and their related goals are being fulfilled.

**Vision Statement:** Excellent education programs and facilities are available to students of all ages in a variety of programs that both support each individual's goals and address the diverse social, economic, and environmental needs of the community.

**8.1 Goal:** Facilities - Educational facilities in Columbia will benefit and meet the current and long range needs of the entire community through plans for shared usage and focused attention to technology, the environment, and energy efficiency.

**8.2 Goal:** Resource Allocation -The community and all its public and private entities will work together to ensure that resources for education are allocated effectively through all life stages.

**8.3 Goal:** Quality - Columbia will provide a continuum of high quality educational opportunities that enable students of all ages and abilities to achieve individualized learning and training goals that ultimately improve quality of life.

This report has been reviewed and commented on by:

## Implementation Efforts

8.1 Facilities	8.1.1 City, County and Board of Education create a Community Educational Facilities Commission to inventory existing resources, plan for 25 years, estimate costs, examine fundraising options, id opportunities for shared use, encourage energy efficiency.	Community passed a ¼ cent county-wide sales tax to fund activities overseen by the Boone County Childrens Services Board. The county commission awarded a contract to the Truman School to inventory resources, guide the board in investment of resources and other deliverables - <a href="http://www.showmeboone.com/clerk/MinutesPDF/2014/20140109.pdf">http://www.showmeboone.com/clerk/MinutesPDF/2014/20140109.pdf</a>
	8.1.2. Columbia Public Schools representatives with appropriate authority actively participate with City and County planning agencies.	<i>Representatives are in place; too soon to assess collaboration</i>
	8.1.3. P&Z representatives with appropriate authority actively participate on the Facilities Committee of the Columbia Public Schools.	<i>Representatives in place; too soon to assess collaboration</i>
8.2 Resource Allocation	8.2.1 The agencies look for synergies and expand their collaboration	Columbia Public Schools held "World Cafes" in 2010 and 2011 to bring the community together to address the achievement gap
	8.2.2 City, County create a coordinator (of educational resources) to inventory existing resources, convene providers once a week, identify overlaps and gaps, and determine public perceptions	Community passed a ¼ cent county-wide sales tax to fund activities overseen by the Boone County Childrens Services Board. The county commission awarded a contract to the Truman School to inventory resources, guide the board in investment of resources and other deliverables - <a href="http://www.showmeboone.com/clerk/MinutesPDF/2014/20140109.pdf">http://www.showmeboone.com/clerk/MinutesPDF/2014/20140109.pdf</a>
	8.2.3 The community creates programs to fill educational gaps.	United Way restructured its giving to focus on community impact, including children entering school ready to succeed, reading proficiently by 3 <sup>rd</sup> grade and making a successful transition in and out of middle school - <a href="http://www.uwheartmo.org/community-impact-strategic-investments">http://www.uwheartmo.org/community-impact-strategic-investments</a>
8.3 Curriculum &Programs	8.3.1 CPS assesses school readiness of kindergartners, including subgroups	Kids are screened in development, language, hearing and vision and referred to the special education program if needs are identified. CPS Special Needs program has plan for finding and assisting children with needs - <a href="http://www.columbia.k12.mo.us/speced/specialed/index.html">http://www.columbia.k12.mo.us/speced/specialed/index.html</a>
	8.3.2 City creates a "front door" to early education and better coordination of services	CPS has a description and contact information for its early childhood education center, but no other information. United Way has a 2-1-1 number where people can get info on childcare, among other things
	8.3.3 There is a needs assessment of at-risk kids and their access to high quality programs	CPS has an assessment plan in place that aims to identify needs to guide teaching and to evaluate progress - <a href="http://www.columbia.k12.mo.us/misc/AssessmentPlan.pdf">http://www.columbia.k12.mo.us/misc/AssessmentPlan.pdf</a>

	8.3.4 There are more high-quality early education providers, programs for parent education, and capacity for special needs kids	State funding for Parents as Teachers cut in 2010, cuts have not been made up
	8.3.5 There is publicly funded voluntary pre-K.	<i>Title I added 7 temporary classrooms in 2011</i>
	8.3.6 There is a task force to review and support adoption of research-based curriculum and methods aligned with grade level standards across all learning communities	CPS developed a district assessment plan in 2013 to help with evaluating program effectiveness, efficient allocation of resources and professional development
	8.3.7 There is a coordinating coalition organized by City's Volunteer Coordinator that organizes an annual conference for all educators to share information	
	8.3.7a Shared professional development increases and also opportunities for teacher to share knowledge	<i>CPS now hosts twice yearly meetings with private schools to discuss PD</i>
	8.3.8 Coordinating coalition creates additional volunteer opportunities	
	8.3.9 CPS makes volunteering or service learning mandatory	<i>There is no mandate, However, volunteering is encouraged</i>

## Significant Events in the past year

### 2013

#### March

Disability award from governor STEP program

CPS faces budget uncertainty - [http://www.columbiatribune.com/news/education/columbia-public-schools-faces-budget-uncertainty/article\\_dd7e7930-8b3f-11e2-9bc9-10604b9f6eda.html](http://www.columbiatribune.com/news/education/columbia-public-schools-faces-budget-uncertainty/article_dd7e7930-8b3f-11e2-9bc9-10604b9f6eda.html) – potential \$489,00 loss due to sequestration

#### April

Future Problem Solving Team wins state competition

3M awards Jeff Junior \$10,000 for innovative design

#### May

#### June

#### July

#### August

Battle by the Numbers (new H.S. opens) [http://www.columbiatribune.com/special\\_sections/did-you-know-battle-by-the-numbers/article\\_5f1fa96e-feb3-11e2-8f43-10604b9f6eda.html](http://www.columbiatribune.com/special_sections/did-you-know-battle-by-the-numbers/article_5f1fa96e-feb3-11e2-8f43-10604b9f6eda.html)

#### September

Learning to help kids in crisis - [http://www.columbiatribune.com/news/local/learning-to-help-kids-in-crisis/article\\_ddc3fccc-2152-11e3-9697-10604b9f6eda.html](http://www.columbiatribune.com/news/local/learning-to-help-kids-in-crisis/article_ddc3fccc-2152-11e3-9697-10604b9f6eda.html)

CPS's nature school could open as soon as next year - [http://www.columbiatribune.com/news/education/columbia-public-schools-nature-school-could-open-as-soon-as/article\\_de362496-2152-11e3-96df-10604b9f6eda.html](http://www.columbiatribune.com/news/education/columbia-public-schools-nature-school-could-open-as-soon-as/article_de362496-2152-11e3-96df-10604b9f6eda.html) – MO State Parks has signed on as a partner with Rock Bridge Memorial State Park as the location

Columbia schools look for solutions to overcrowding - [http://www.columbiatribune.com/news/education/columbia-schools-look-for-solutions-to-overcrowding/article\\_0a38177a-2220-11e3-9650-10604b9f6eda.html](http://www.columbiatribune.com/news/education/columbia-schools-look-for-solutions-to-overcrowding/article_0a38177a-2220-11e3-9650-10604b9f6eda.html) – district head count at 17,288, previous year 16,960

## **October**

District pushes back plans for nature school - [http://www.columbiatribune.com/news/education/district-pushes-back-plans-for-nature-school/article\\_60fc02ea-31d6-11e3-882d-10604b9f7e7c.html](http://www.columbiatribune.com/news/education/district-pushes-back-plans-for-nature-school/article_60fc02ea-31d6-11e3-882d-10604b9f7e7c.html)

CPS plans series of bond issues through 2020 - [http://www.columbiatribune.com/news/education/columbia-public-schools-plans-series-of-bond-issues-through/article\\_91ca4e24-3044-11e3-96d0-10604b9f6eda.html](http://www.columbiatribune.com/news/education/columbia-public-schools-plans-series-of-bond-issues-through/article_91ca4e24-3044-11e3-96d0-10604b9f6eda.html) - %50 million bond issue in April with \$40 million bond proposals every two years

## **November**

School board committee considers projects for April ballot - [http://www.columbiatribune.com/news/education/school-board-committee-considers-projects-for-april-ballot-issue/article\\_4054454e-464d-11e3-ad5a-10604b9f7e7c.html](http://www.columbiatribune.com/news/education/school-board-committee-considers-projects-for-april-ballot-issue/article_4054454e-464d-11e3-ad5a-10604b9f7e7c.html)

## **December**

Council approves 17th joint Parks and Recreation and Columbia Public Schools playground project. [https://www.gocolumbiamo.com/ParksandRec/Parks\\_and\\_Facilities/annual\\_city\\_school.php#thirteen](https://www.gocolumbiamo.com/ParksandRec/Parks_and_Facilities/annual_city_school.php#thirteen)

Columbia nature school concept piques interest at open house - [http://www.columbiatribune.com/news/education/columbia-nature-school-concept-piques-interest-at-open-house/article\\_742bee8a-642a-11e3-8031-10604b9f6eda.html](http://www.columbiatribune.com/news/education/columbia-nature-school-concept-piques-interest-at-open-house/article_742bee8a-642a-11e3-8031-10604b9f6eda.html)

Columbia Public Schools promotes diversity training - [http://www.columbiatribune.com/news/education/columbia-public-schools-promotes-diversity-training/article\\_289ea426-6f7e-11e3-aebf-10604b9f6eda.html](http://www.columbiatribune.com/news/education/columbia-public-schools-promotes-diversity-training/article_289ea426-6f7e-11e3-aebf-10604b9f6eda.html)

CPS officials address anti-violence task force - 2014 [http://www.columbiatribune.com/news/crime/columbia-public-schools-officials-address-anti-violence-task-force/article\\_d6dd9498-5ddb-11e3-9ae5-10604b9f6eda.html](http://www.columbiatribune.com/news/crime/columbia-public-schools-officials-address-anti-violence-task-force/article_d6dd9498-5ddb-11e3-9ae5-10604b9f6eda.html) – poverty a major factor in high school graduation

## **2014**

### **January**

Belcher to retire from CPS, take MU job - [http://www.columbiatribune.com/news/education/belcher-to-retire-from-columbia-public-schools-take-mu-job/article\\_734384e4-78a5-11e3-a9ac-001a4bcf6878.html](http://www.columbiatribune.com/news/education/belcher-to-retire-from-columbia-public-schools-take-mu-job/article_734384e4-78a5-11e3-a9ac-001a4bcf6878.html) – will start in August at MU

### **February**

Columbia Public Schools explores new truancy policy - [http://www.columbiatribune.com/news/education/columbia-public-schools-explores-new-truancy-policy/article\\_b0c6ba04-9c48-11e3-a05c-10604b9f6eda.html](http://www.columbiatribune.com/news/education/columbia-public-schools-explores-new-truancy-policy/article_b0c6ba04-9c48-11e3-a05c-10604b9f6eda.html) – a policy that holds parents accountable when their kids miss school

### **March**

Columbia public schools tap Stiepleman for superintendent - [http://www.columbiatribune.com/news/education/columbia-public-schools-tap-stiepleman-for-superintendent/article\\_773fbbf4-ab99-11e3-9ea7-0017a43b2370.html](http://www.columbiatribune.com/news/education/columbia-public-schools-tap-stiepleman-for-superintendent/article_773fbbf4-ab99-11e3-9ea7-0017a43b2370.html)

### **April**

Dr. Ben Tilley named Asst. Superintendent for Elementary Education - <http://www.columbia.k12.mo.us/Releases/Tilley.pdf>

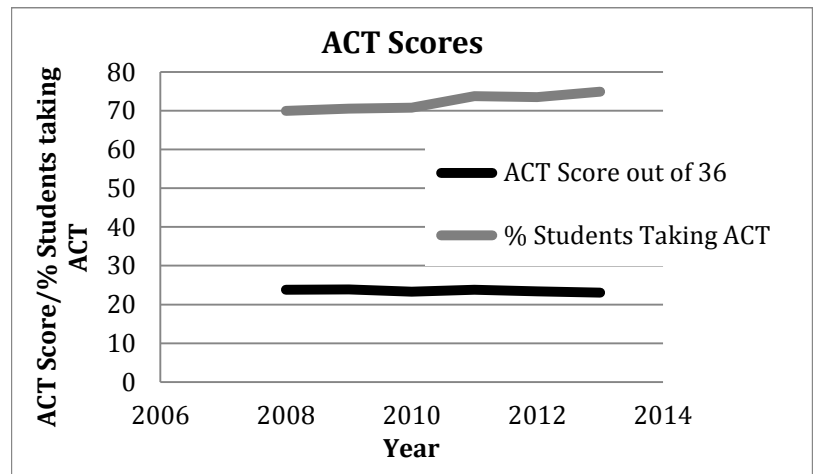
Columbia Board of Education earned 2014 Missouri School Boards Association Governance Team Award - <http://www.columbia.k12.mo.us/misc/Governance%20Team%202014.pdf>

## Progress Indicators

### High Quality Educational Opportunities



CPS Students compete in Siemens Science Competition. Image: CPS "What are You Doing Video"



**Rationale** – If Columbia is effective in providing high quality educational opportunities, then scores on standardized evaluations should increase, even as the percentage of graduating students taking the test increases.

**Data Explanation** – Composite ACT scores test high school student achievement and are widely used in Missouri for entry into public colleges and universities

**Data Source** – Department of Elementary and Secondary Education school data website - <http://mcde.dese.mo.gov>

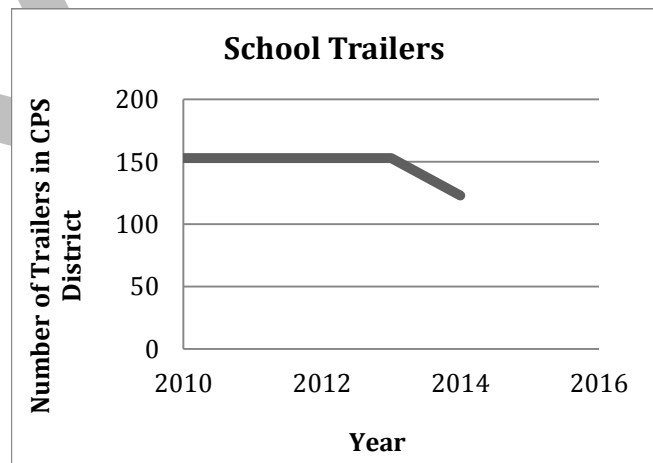
**Cautions** – ACT scores only capture achievement by students who believe themselves college-bound. A good measure would also capture achievement by students considering the armed services or a trade.

### Facilities

#### Ultimate Goal:



Image from CPS power point on the bond issue



**Rationale** – If Columbia is supportive of high quality facilities for students and youth, then the number of trailers the public school system has to rely on for classroom space should go down

**Data Explanation** – The number of trailers being used as classrooms in the school system

**Data Source** – The data were gleaned from news stories in the Columbia Daily Tribune

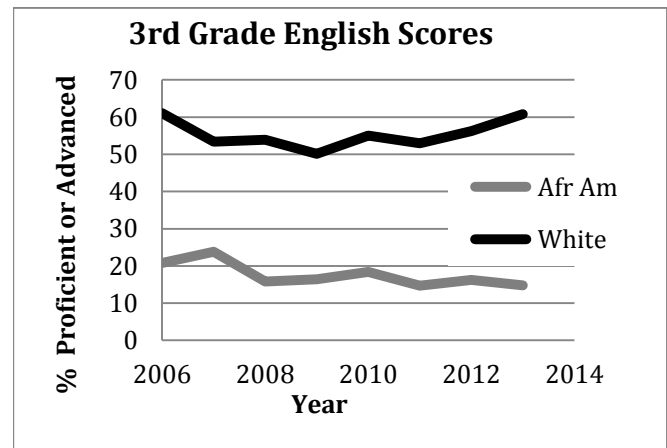
**Cautions** – This captures only part of what the community was concerned about in terms of facilities. Another measure might be the number of basketball courts, or public meeting spaces for youth groups

## Resource Allocation

### 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade Communication Arts Scores



Literacy Night at Benton Elementary. Image: Benton Elementary Website



**Rationale** – To be successful in later grades students need to be successful in earlier grades. Currently 3<sup>rd</sup> grade is the earliest grade at which Columbia students are assessed.

**Data Explanation** – The data are percent students scoring proficient or advanced in 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade Communication Arts (reading and writing) on the state test, sorted by race, African American and White

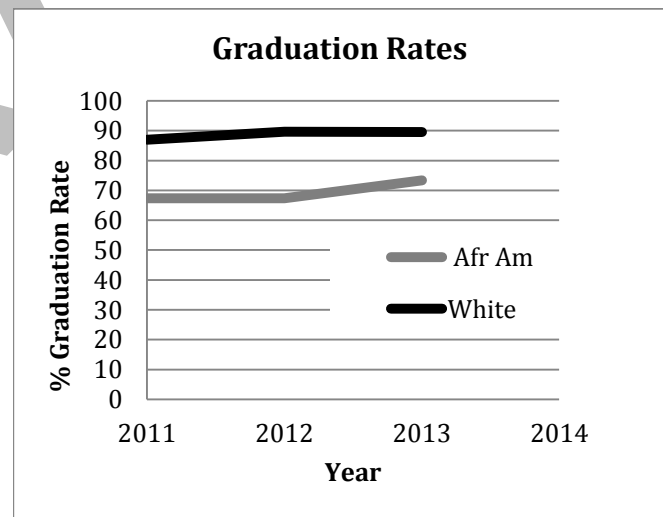
**Data Source** – Department of Elementary and Secondary Education school data website - <http://mcde.dese.mo.gov>

**Cautions** – While the data are from the school system, they reflect community issues. Only some of these issues can be directly addressed by schools, and then only with community support. Other issues like poverty, affordable housing and health care are community, state and national factors.

### Minority Graduation Rate



Hickman H.S. Graduation. Image: Columbia Public Schools



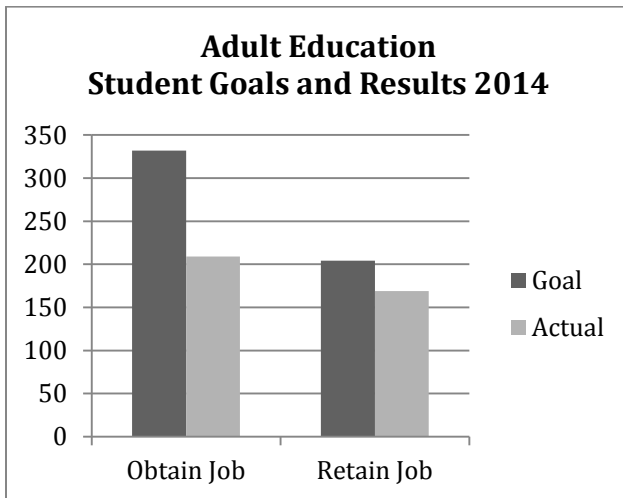
**Rationale** – If Columbia is succeeding in meeting the needs of all students then there should be no significant difference between graduation rates for students in different racial categories, and not because white graduation rates went down.

**Data Explanation** – % graduation rate for African American and White students from the Columbia Public School District

**Data Source** – Department of Elementary and Secondary Education school data website - <http://mcde.dese.mo.gov>

**Cautions** – While the data are from the school system, they reflect community issues. Only some of these issues can be directly addressed by schools, and then only with community support. Other issues like poverty, affordable housing and health care are community, state and national factors.

## Adult Education (Columbia Area Career Center-Columbia Public Schools)



**Rationale** – If the Columbia community is to fill educational gaps, then adult education must be recognized as a necessary and valuable institution in the community.

**Data Explanation** – TBD

**Data Source** – Ms. Barbie Banks, Coordinator of the Adult Learning Center (Columbia Area Career Center)

**Cautions** – The Columbia Area Career Center is not the only institution that provides Adult Education. These figures are not an exhaustive list of adult education efforts in the community.